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(54) Title: BRIDGED METALLOCENE COMPOUNDS

(57) Abstract

The invention relates to new transition metal compounds useful as olefin polymerization catalysts. They are characterized by the formula (V) (E) (W)M(L), in which M is a transition metal, V, E, and W, is e.g. alkyl, and L is a ligand which has formula (I).

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BRIDGED METALLOCENE COMPOUNDS

The invention relates to new metallocene compounds. In particular, the new compounds are metallocenes of the transition metals selected from the group consisting of hafnium, titanium and zirconium. These compounds can be used as the source of the transition metal in an olefin polymerization catalyst.

The compounds of the invention comprise those of formula (V)(E)(W) M-L. Preferred compounds within that formula are compounds of formula IA and IB which are defined below;

L-M $\{X\}_2\{Cp'\}$ IA. L-M $\{Y\}\{Cp'\}^*$ IB.

The element L is a ligand defined below, M is a metal selected from the group consisting of zirconium, hafnium and titanium, X is the same or different and is halide (chloride, bromide or iodide) or alkyl, preferably methyl, or aryl; and Y is preferably alkyl. The group Cp'is an unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl group. Compounds of formula IA can be used in combination with alumoxane to polymerize ethylene. Compounds of IB can be used in the zwitterionic form to polymerize ethylene, without an alumoxane component for activation of the transition metal.

The invention relates to transition metal compounds, to their synthesis, and to their use in olefin polymerization, which can be characterized by the formula I', where I' is (V)(E)(W) M-L

in which M is selected from the group consisting of zirconium, hafnium and titanium;

each of V, E and W is the same or different and is independently alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, halide, or unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl,

provided that one, and only one, of said V, E, and W is unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl; and

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in which L is

$$R_2$$
 R_3
 R_4
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_{10}
 R_{10}
 R_{10}

wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 and R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkylene of 2 to 10 carbon atoms which form bridged bicyclic or tricyclic moieties;

A is C, Si, Ge; and each of R_6 and R_7 is the same or different and is alkyl of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aryl of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 20 carbon atoms or alkynyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

each of R_{θ} , R_{9} , R_{10} , R_{11} , is the same or different, and is fluorine, hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

D is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkali metal [sodium or lithium]; halogen [chloride or bromide]; alkyl halide in which the alkyl has 1 to 6 carbon atoms and halide is chlorine or bromine; and BG₃ or AlG₃ in which B is boron (B) or Al is aluminum (Al), and

G is pentafluorophenyl, bis-trifluoromethylphenyl, phenyl or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

Preferred compounds of I' are the compounds of formula IA and IB,

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$$L-M [X]_2[Cp']$$

IA.

L-M[Y] [Cp']*

IB.

L refers to a ligand which has the formula

$$R_2$$
 R_3
 R_4
 R_6
 R_7
 R_8
 R_9
 R_{10}
 R_{11}

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in which each of 1, 2, 3 and 4 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms [including methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, isobutyl pentyl isomers of pentyl and hexyl and isomers of hexyl], alkylene of 2 to 10 carbon atoms which form bridged bicyclic or tricyclic moieties, (such as indenyl);

A is C, Si, Ge,; and each of R_6 and R_7 is the same or different and is alkyl of 1 to 20, preferably 1 to 6, carbon atoms, aryl of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 20 carbon atoms or alkynyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

each of R_{θ} , R_{9} , R_{10} , R_{11} , is the same or different, and is fluorine, hydrogen, or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

D is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkali metal (e.g. sodium or lithium), halogen (chloride or bromide); alkyl halide in which the alkyl has 1 to 6 carbon atoms and halide is chlorine or bromine, and BG3 or AlG3 in which B is boron (B) or aluminum (Al),

G is pentafluorophenyl, bis-trifluoromethylphenyl, phenyl or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and M is defined as above.

In the formula, the Cp' group is an unsubstituted, a 20 mono- or a polysubstituted cyclopentadienyl group. substituents on the cyclopentadienyl group can be straight-or branched chain C_1 - C_6 alkyl groups. The cyclopentadienyl group can be also a part of a bicyclic or a tricyclic moiety such as indenyl, tetrahydroindenyl, fluorenyl or a partially 25 hydrogenated fluorenyl group, as well as a part of a substituted bicyclic or tricyclic moiety. The cyclopentadienyl groups and L can be also substituted or bridged by polymethylene or dialkylsilane groups, such as - CH_2- , $-CH_2-CH_2-$, -CR'R"- and -CR'R"-CR'R"- where R' and R" are 30 short alkyl groups or hydrogen, -Si(CH3)2-, Si(CH3)2-CH2-CH2-Si(CH3)2- and similar bridge groups. Suitable groups constituting Cp' include unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl. Substituted cyclopentadienyls include mono-, di- tri-, tetra- and penta-substituted 35

cyclopentadienyls in which the substituents are alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms [including methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, isomers of pentyl, hexyl and isomers of hexyl or alkylene groups of 3 to 10 carbon atoms which form 5 bicyclic and tricyclic alicyclic groups. cyclopentadienyl ring may be mono-, di-, tri-, tetra or penta-substituted. The substitution may be alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms; and thus includes the methylcyclopentadienvl, dimethylcyclopentadienyl, trimethylcylcopentadienyl, 10 tetramethylcyclopentadienyl, pentamethylcyclopentadienyl, ethylcyclopentadienyl, methylethylcyclopentadienyl, propylcyclopentadienyl, methylpropylcyclopentadienyl, butylcyclopentadienyl, methylbutylcyclopentadienyl, and hexylcyclopentadienyl, and an indenyl group, 4,5,6,7-15 tetrahydroindenyl group and fluorenyl group. cyclopentadienyl groups may be substituted by a halogen atom or trialkylsilyl group. The lithium compound may comprise said cyclopentadienyl substituted by a second cyclopentadienyl bonded together via an alkylene group such as ethylene 20 and propylene, an isopropylidene group, a substituted alkylene group such as diphenylmethylene, a silylene group or a substituted silylene group such as dimethylsilylene, diphenylsilylene and methylphenylsilylene. The di-, tri, tetra or penta-substituted cyclopentadienyl groups can be dialkyl, trialkyl, tetraalkyl or pentaalkyl-substituted 25 cyclopentadienyl in which the alkyl is 1 to 6 carbon atoms. e.g., methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, and isomers of butyl, pentyl, hexyl.

The ligand L can be synthesized from compounds of formula 1.

The initial synthesis step comprises contacting the compound of formula 1 with a compound of formula a,

$$R_3$$
 R_5
 R_6
 R_7
 R_8
 R_9
 R_9
 R_9
 R_9
 R_{10}
 R_{11}

(1) (a)

in these compounds of formulae 1 and a, each of R, R, R, R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , R_7 , R_9 , R_9 , R_{10} , and R_{11} , and A are as defined above; and Rs is preferably hydrogen, although it may be GeZ, wherein Ge is germanium and Z is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms [including methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, hexyl and isomers of pentyl and hexyl and isomers of hexyl] or aryl of 6 to 10 carbon atoms. In preferred embodiments, R, is hydrogen while each of R1-R4 is methyl; the kinetic inertness of the tetramethylcyclopentadiene proton, when R, is hydrogen, allows preferential nucleophilic displacement of the A-C, bond in compound 1 as well as lithiation of component 2 resulting in the high yield synthesis of the compound of formula 4, in subsequent steps. Contact of the two compounds can be undertaken at low temperatures, preferably below ambient temperatures in diethyl ether, for extended periods Compounds of formula I in which R₁-R₄, R₆ and R₇ are of time. methyl and A is Si (silicon) are readily available. preferred embodiments herein the compound of formula a is 1, lithium-4, bromo, -2, 3, 5, 6-tetrafluorophenyl.

A compound of formula 2 is the product of the contact of the compound of formula 1 and formula a, which is isolatable as a solid compound. The formula of compound(s) 2 is

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{1} & R_{6} & R_{7} \\
\hline
R_{2} & R_{1} & R_{10} & R_{11}
\end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{6} & R_{7} \\
\hline
R_{10} & R_{11}
\end{array}$$

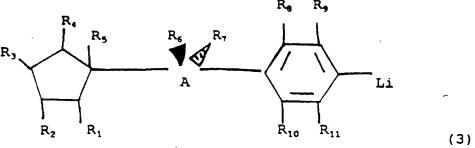
$$\begin{array}{c|c}
R_{10} & R_{11}
\end{array}$$

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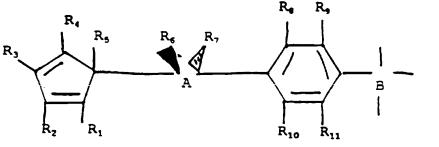
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When D is bromine in compound 2, that compound can be further treated with either an alkyl lithium [n-butyllithium] or a Grignard reagent, and subsequently with B(C_sF_s), to produce a compound 4, wherein D is $-[B(C_6F_5)_3]$ anion. The sequence can be illustrated by the reactions to yield compounds of formulae 3 and 4. Reaction of compound 2 with BuLi will produce a compound of formula 3, which has the structure



10 This reaction is undertaken at temperatures below ambient temperature, preferably at -78°C, in diethyl ether. isolation, the compound of formula 3 is contacted under substantially the same conditions with $B(C_6F_5)_3$, at -78°C, in diethyl ether for twelve hours to produce the compound of formula 4.



The compound of formula 4 can be converted to a dianion form by abstracting R₅ by treatment with alkyl lithium compounds; this step is conducted in diisopropyl ether, which is essential to facilitate the isolation and purification of the compound 4 when it is a dianion, as for example when D is $-BG_3$ in formula 5 and G is C_6F_5 .

After formation of the of the compound 5, it is contacted with a transition metal chloride, in which the

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transition metal M is titanium, zirconium or hafnium (III or IV), for example, the tetrahalide or tetrachloride of zirconium, hafnium or titanium. The reaction results in production of a transition metal compound of formula 6

$$R_3 \qquad R_4 \qquad R_8 \qquad R_9 \qquad R_{10} \qquad R_{11} \qquad R_{10} \qquad R_{11} \qquad R_{11} \qquad R_{10} \qquad R_{11} \qquad R_{11} \qquad R_{12} \qquad R_{13} \qquad R_{14} \qquad R_{15} \qquad R_{1$$

Reaction of the compound of formula 6 with a lithium cyclopentadienyl derivative [in which cyclopentadienyl is denoted by Cp'], in methylene chloride at below ambient temperatures [at -78°C] results in production of transition metal compound containing two cyclopentadienyl groups which is the compound of formula IA, above.

The cyclopentadienyl moiety in the lithium compound used to convert compound of formula 6, to the compound of formula 1A can be unsubstituted or substituted; if substituted, the cyclopentadienyl ring may be mono-, di-, tri, tetra or pentasubstituted. The substitution may be alkyl; and thus includes the methylcyclopentadienyl, dimethylcyclopentadienyl, trimethylcylcopentadienyl, tetramethylcyclopentadienyl, pentamethylcyclopentadienyl, ethylcyclopentadienyl, methylethylcyclopentadienyl, propylcyclopentadienyl, methylpropylcyclopentadienyl, butylcyclopentadienyl, methylbutylcyclopentadienyl, and hexylcyclopentadienyl, and an indenylgroup, 4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindenyl group and fluorenyl group. These cyclopentadienyl groups may be substituted by a halogen atom or trialkylsilyl group. The lithium compound may comprise said cyclopentadienyl substitut d by a second cyclopentadienyl bonded together via

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an alkylene group such as ethylene and propylene, an isopropylidene group, a substituted alkylene group such as diphenylmethylene, a silylene group or a substituted silylene group such as dimethylsilylene, diphenylsilylene and methylphenylsilylene. The di-, tri, tetra or pentasubstituted cyclopentadienyl groups can be dialkyl, trialkyl, tetraalkyl or pentaalkyl-substituted cyclopentadienyl in which the alkyl is 1 to 6 carbon atoms, e.g., methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, and isomers of butyl, pentyl, hexyl. Lithium cyclopentadienyl derivatives are readily commercially available.

Reaction of compound of formula IA with a Grignard reagent or an alkyl lithium reagent results in displacement of the halides by alkyl groups to produce compounds of formula IA in which X is alkyl, provided by the Grignard.

Compounds of formula IA can be converted to compounds of formula IB by contacting the alkylated (wherein X is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms) IA materials with a borane compound including but not limited to $B(C_6F_5)_3$, $Ph_3C^*B(C_6F_5)_4$ or $HNR_2Ph^*B(C_6F_5)_4$ to abstract an alkyl X group and convert the transition metal compound to a zwitterion for use in polymerization without alumoxane activation. The zwitterion compounds of formula IB may be exemplified by the expression (V)(E)(L)M+ or (V)(W)(L)M+ or (E)(W)(L)M+, in which L includes the group D which is BG, or AlG, in which B is boron (B) or aluminum (Al), sodium lithium or halogen and G is selected from the group consisting of pentafluorophenyl, bistrifluoromethylphenyl, hydrogen and alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon In a catalyst composition the transition metal compounds of IA can be combined with an alumoxane, to activate the compound IA; the amount of alumoxane provides an Al[alumoxane]: transition metal ratio of 50 to 10,000.

Aluminoxanes, e.g. methylalumoxane (MAO), have been used as co-catalyst with metallocene catalysts. The class of alumoxanes (used interchangeably hereinafter with

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"aluminoxane") comprises oligomeric linear and/or cyclic alkylalumoxanes represented by the formula:R-(Al(R)-O)n-AlR2 for oligomeric, linear alumoxanes and(-Al(R)-O-)m for oligomeric cyclic alumoxane wherein n is 1-40, preferably 10-20, m is 3-40, preferably 3-20 and R is a Cl-C8 alkyl group and preferably methyl.

Methylalumoxane is commonly produced by reacting trimethylaluminum with water or with hydrated inorganic salts, such as CuSO45H2O or Al2(SO4)3.5H2O. Methylalumoxane can be also generated in situ in polymerization reactors by adding trimethylaluminum and water or water-containing inorganic salts. MAO is a mixture of oligomers with a very wide distribution of molecular weights and usually with an average molecular weight of 1200. MAO is typically kept in solution in toluene.

Conditions for the polymerization and copolymerization of ethylene

The process of the invention may be undertaken in gas phase, in fluid bed gas phase, or in slurry. The catalyst of the invention, allows for the production of linear low density polyethylene in the gas phase or in a slurry polymerization. The products from both the gas phase (e.g. fluid bed) and slurry have a high bulk density, which allows for increased throughput of product per weight of catalyst.

Preferably, the polymerization (copolymerization) is undertaken at a temperature and/or pressure below the sintering temperature of the polymer particles. Most preferably, the process is undertaken in the fluid bed gas phase or in a slurry reactor. The high activity of the catalysts herein allow for efficaceous low pressure fluid bed gas phase and/or slurry process product production. Much lower activity catalysts than those described herein are employed in high pressure processes at pressures which exceed 400 psi, such as solution and high pressure slurry polymerizations. For the production of ethylene copolymers in the

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process of the present invention an operating temperature of 30° to 115°C is preferred, and a temperature of 70° to 106°C is most preferred. Temperatures of 75° to 90°C are used to prepare products having a density of 0.91 to 0.92, and temperatures of 80° to 100°C are used to prepare products having a density of 0.92 to 0.94, and temperatures of 90° to 115°C are used to prepare products having a density of 0.94 to 0.96.

In the gas phase, linear low density production is conducted at 85°C and high density product is formed at 105°C. In slurry polymerization, linear low density production is conducted at 70°C and high density production is conducted at 90°C.

In polymerizations described herein, pressures are below 10000 psi, preferably below 1000 psi. The fluid bed reactor is operated at pressures of up to 1000 psi, and is preferably operated at a pressure of from 150 to 350 psi, with operation at the higher pressures in such ranges favoring heat transfer since an increase in pressure increases the unit volume heat capacity of the gas.

Examples

Preparation of $(C_5(CH_3)_4H-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_6F_4Br)$ (1):n-BuLi (16.8 mL, 1.6M in hexanes) was carefully injected over a 5 minute period to a -78°C Et₂O (100 mL) suspension of 1,4-dibromo 2,3,5,6 tetrafluorobenzene ($C_6Br_2F_4$) (12.9 g) and stirred for 10 min. (Caution: n-BuLi addition must be slow and the solution must be kept cold to prevent formation of benzyne and LiF). A Et₂O (15 mL) solution of chlorodimethylsilyl tetramethyl cyclopentadiene (CH_3)₄(C_5)Si(CH_3)₂-Cl)H) (8.97 g) was then cannulated over a 7-8 minute period into the flask containing LiC₆F₄Br. A yellow solution formed immediately. The solution was left stirring at -78°C for 1 hour and then warmed to -50°C for an additional -10 hours.

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After this time, the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. Stirring was then stopped, to let the salts settle over a one hour period. The remaining yellow solution was separated by cannula filtration. Removal of solvent from the filtrate left an orange oily solid. Recrystallization from pentane at -78°C left a pale yellow oily solid. Yield 15.0 g, 88%.

Preparation of $(C_5(CH_3)_4H-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_6F_4B(C_6F_5)_3$. Li(Et₂O)₄) (2):n-BuLi (1.56 mL, 2.5 M in hexanes) was slowly syringed into a -78°C Et₂O (-20 mL) solution of 1 (1.6 g) and stirred for 10 min. This mixture was then quickly added via cannula to a -78°C Et₂O (-40 mL) solution of $B(C_6F_5)_3$. Immediately upon addition a yellow solution formed. The flask was stirred at -78°C for an additional 14 hours and then left to warm to room temperature overnight. The product formed a yellow solution. Solvent was removed under vacuum and the product was washed 2x with ~20 mL pentane. After pumping dry, a white crystalline solid was isolated. Yield 3.2 g, 81%. Note: This reaction does not proceed if pentane is used instead of diethylether (Et₂O) as the solvent.

Preparation of $(C_5(CH_3)_4-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_6F_4B(C_6F_5)_3$. Li $_2$ (i-Pr $_2$ O) $_4$) (3):n-BuLi (1.15 mL, 2.5 M in hexanes) was syringed into a stirred -78°C isopropyl ether (-40 mL) solution of 2 and then warmed to room temperature on its own. Stirring was continued overnight and left a white solid suspended in solution. The isopropyl ether was removed via cannula filtration to leave a white crystalline solid which was then washed 1x with pentane (20 mL) and pumped dry. Yield 2.54 g, 77%. Note: Removal of the Cp methine proton does not proceed to completion in either Et $_2$ O or THF due to the formation of an oily layer at the bottom, possibly a calathrate. Longer reaction times (2.5 days) produces no difference in the recovered yield of 3. Use of greater than 1 equivalent of n-BuLi is also ineffective. Use of a smaller alkyl lithium

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such as methyl lithium (MeLi) does not work either. A mixture of unidentified products is recovered in this case. The use of lithium dimethyl amide $(LiN(CH_3)_2)$ produces results similar to that when 1.1 equivalent of n-BuLi is used (i.e. ~ 50% conversion to 3).

Preparation of $(ZrCl_3)(\eta^5-C_5(CH_3)_4-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_5F_4B(C_5F_5)_3$. Li $(i-Pr_2O)_4$) (4): 0.708 g of 3 was suspended in $i-Pr_2O(\sim 10)$ mL) and cooled to -78 C. 1.1 equiv. of ZrCl, (144 mgs) was then added slowly via side arm addition funnel. Upon addition, a yellow oil formed but the reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred overnight. The solution was concentrated and when the stirring was stopped a yellow oil layer was deposited at the bottom of the flask. excess (iPr),0 was cannulated off, then pumped dry. product was then dissolved in ~30 mL CH₂Cl₂ and left to let the salts settle. The supernatant was then filtered through medium porosity filter paper. The CH,Cl, was removed to leave a yellow crystalline solid. Successive recrystallization from CH₂Cl₂ /pentane left a yellow oily solid which became crystalline after vacuum was applied. Yield .790 g, 52%.

Note: Mixing 3 and ZrCl, in a 1:1 ratio together before adding cold i-Pr₂O produces similar results. Likewise, vacuum transferring i-Pr₂O onto 3 and ZrCl, also gives 4. In all cases, the product needs to be washed with a little i-Pr₂O to remove any 2 which is formed in the reaction. Use of only .95 equiv. of ZrCl, in any reaction leaves traces of 3 which cannot be removed easily. If the reaction is done in CH₂Cl₂ some decomposition of the ligand is observed.

Preparation of $(Zr(CH_2 Ph)_3(\eta^5-C_5(CH_3)_4-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_6F_4B(C_6F_5)_3$: Li(Et₂O)₄) (5): 0.200 g of 4 was suspended in ~10 mL of Et₂O and cooled to -78°. BzMgCl (161 μ L, 3.2 eq) was syringed in and the reaction was allowed to warm to room—temperature. A bright yellow solution formed immediately and

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was left stirring for 8 hrs. Solvent was stripped and the product dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 to separate the salts. The solution was cannula filtered and dried under vacuum to leave a bright yellow solid. Yield not established. Note: This reaction does not proceed well in $i\text{-Pr}_2O$.

Preparation of $(ZrCl_2(\eta^5-C_5H_4)Si(CH_3)_3)(\eta^5-C_5(CH_3)_4-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_6F_4B(C_6F_5)_3\cdot Li(i-Pr_2O)_4)$ (6): .475 g of 4 was mixed with .045 g of LiCp-SiMe3 (base free). ~10 mL of cold (-78°C) CH2Cl2 was cannulated onto the two solids and stirred at room temperature for 2 hrs. A yellow solution formed. Stirring was stopped, the salts were allowed to settle and the solution was collected via cannula filtration. Successive CH2Cl2/pentane recrystallizations left a yellow crystalline solid. Yield is quantitative by 'HNMR.

Preparation of $(Zr(CH_3)_2\{\eta^5-C_5H_4\}Si(CH_3)_3)(\eta^5-C_5(CH_3)_4-Si(CH_3)_2-p-C_6F_4B(C_6F_5)_3\cdot Li(i-Pr_2O)_4)$ (7): .175 g of (6) was suspended in ~10 mL of Et₂O and cooled to ~78 C. 2.5 equiv. CH₃MrBr was syringed in and the reaction kept cold for 1 hr. It was then warmed to room temperature and stirred for 5 hrs. The resulting solution was filtered and then solvent was removed under vacuum to leave a yellow solid.

In situ generation of [Zr(CH₃)(THF)(η⁵-C₅H₄Si(CH₃)₃)(η⁵-C₅(CH₃)₄-Si(CH₃)₂-p=C₅F₄B(C₆F₅)₃); 0.33 g of (7) was dissolved in THF_{d-θ} and cooled to -10°C. One equivalent of trispentafluorophenyl boron was then added via spatula to the sample and warmed to room temperature immediately. A ¹HNMR spectrum was recorded within 10 minutes and exhibited reasonances consistent with the formation of the compound. Spectroscopic data: ¹HNMR δ-0.22(s, 3H, Zr-CH₃); δ0.63(br s, 6H₁-Si(CH₃)₂-);δ0.30(2, 9H, -Si(CH₃)₃); δ1.79(s, 3H, Cp-CH₃);δ1.88(2, 3H, Cp-CH₃);δ1.99(s, 3H, Cp-CH₃);δ1.99(s, 3H, Cp-CH₃);δ5.72(br s, 1H, TMS-Cp);δ5.95(br s, 1H, TMS-Cp);δ6.40(br

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s, 1H, TMS-Cp); $\delta 6.50$ (br s, 1H, TMS-Cp).

CATALYST PREPARATION

All procedures were performed under a dry nitrogen atmosphere. All liquids/solvents were anhydrous.

Catalyst A, 15 mg(0.0097 mmol) of $(Zr(Cl_2[\{\eta^5-C_5H_4\})(Si(CH_3)_3)])$ $(\eta^5-C_5(CH_3)_4)$ -Si(CH₃)₂-p-C₆F₄B(C₆F₃])·Li(O-i-Pr₂O)₄} were dissolved in 2.0 g of a MAO/toluene solution (13 weight percent aluminum, 9.63 mmol Al, Al/Zr=1000) at room temperature. The catalyst was used immediately after preparation.

Catalyst B, 4 mg (0.0099 mmol) of $(\eta^5-C_5H_4-n-Bu)_2ZrCl_2$ were dissolved in 2.0 g of a MAO/toluene solution (13 wt.% aluminum, 9.63 mmol Al, Al/Zr = 1000) at room temperature.

POLYMERIZATION

Ethylene/1-hexene copolymers were prepared by these catalysts under identical polymerization procedures, described below:

A 1 gallon stainless steel autoclave at room temperature was charged with 1500 mL heptane and 150 mL 1-hexene. 1.0 mL of 14 weight percent tri-iso-butylaluminum in hexane were added. The reactor was closed, and the temperature was brought to 70°C. 50 mg of catalyst B was introduced with ethylene pressure. Ethylene wasa replenished on demand to keep reactor pressure constant at 135 psi. After 60 minutes, the reactor was vented and cooled to room temperature. 42.1 gm polymer were collected.

	Catalyst	A	В
	Activity		
	kg/g2r/hr	170	1870
30	I ₂ (g/10 min.)	0.07	0.04
	MFR	17.3	18.1
	Density (g/cc)	0.916	0.917
	Mole % C ₆	2.1	1.0
	Melting Pt. (°C)	111.2	118.5

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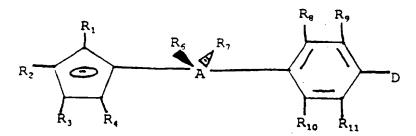
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CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the formula (V)(E)(W) M-L

in which M is selected from the group consisting of zirconium, hafnium and titanium;

in which each of V, E, W is the same or different and each is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, halide, or unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl provided that one, and only one, of V, E, and W, is unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl; and in which L is



wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkylene of 2 to 10 carbon atoms which form bridged bicyclic or tricyclic moieties;

A is C, Si, Ge; and each of R_6 and R_7 is the same or different and is alkyl of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aryl of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 20 carbon atoms or alkynyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

each of R_8 , R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} , is the same or different, and is fluorine, hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

D is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, sodium, lithium, halogen, BG₃ or AlG₃ in which B is boron (B) and Al is aluminum (Al), and

G is pentafluorophenyl, bis-trifluoromethylphenyl, phenyl or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

25 2. The compound of Claim 1, wherein D is BG3.

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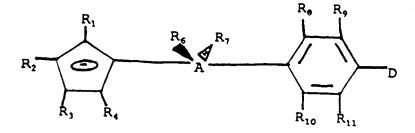
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- 3. The compound of Claim 2, wherein G is pentafluorophenyl.
- 4. The compound of Claim 1, wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 , is methyl.
 - 5. The compound of Claim 1, wherein A is Si.
- 6. The compound of Claim 5, wherein each of R_6 and R_7 is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.
- 7. The compound of claim 6, wherein G is pentaflurophenyl.
 - 8. A compound of the empirical formula $(V)(E)(L)M^*$

in which M is selected from the group consisting of zirconium, hafnium and titanium;

in which each of V and E is the same or different and each is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, halide, or unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl provided that one, and only one, of V, and E is unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl;

10 and in which L is



wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkylene of 2 to 10 carbon atoms which form bridged bicyclic or tricyclic moieties;

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A is C, Si, or Ge; and each of R_6 and R_7 is the same or different and is alkyl of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aryl of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 20 carbon atoms or alkynyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

each of R_8 , R_9 , R_{10} , R_{11} is the same or different, and is fluorine, hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

D is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms; sodium; lithium; halogen; alkyl halide in which the alkyl has 1 to 6 carbon atoms and halide is chlorine or bromine; or BG, or AlG, in which B is boron (B) and Al is aluminum (Al),

G is selected from the group consisting of pentafluorophenyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl, hydrogen and alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

- 9. The compound of Claim 8, wherein A is Si.
- 10. The compound of Claim 9, wherein each of R_6 and R_7 is alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.
- 11. The compound of claim 10, wherein G is pentaflurophenyl.
- 12. A process for olefin polymerization comprising contacting ethylene with a transition metal catalyst, under olefin polymerization conditions, in which the source of transition metal is the compound of Claim 1.
- 13. A process for olefin polymerization comprising contacting ethylene with a transition metal catalyst, under olefin polymerization conditions, in which the source of transition metal is the zwitterion of Claim 8.

14. A process for forming the compound of Claim 1 comprising contacting a compound of the formula

with a reagent effective to abstract the R_5 group to form an intermediate and contacting the intermediate with a transition metal halide, in which the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of zirconium, hafnium and titanium, to form a trihalide transition metal salt of the intermediate.

15. The process of claim 14, which further comprises the step of contacting the trihalide transition metal salt with a compound which is a lithium salt of cyclopentadienyl compound which comprises an unsubstituted or substituted cyclopentadienyl ring which is mono, di-, tri, tetra or penta-substituted cyclopentadienyl, in which the substitution is monoalkyl, dialkyl, trialkyl, tetraalkyl or pentaalkyl-substituted cyclopentadienyl in which the alkyl is 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

16. A salt in which the anion is characterized by the formula

wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkylene of 2 to 10 carbon atoms which form bridged bicyclic or tricyclic moieties;

A is C, Si, Ge; and each of R_6 and R_7 is the same or different and is alkyl of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aryl of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 20 carbon atoms or alkynyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

each of R_{θ} , R_{9} , R_{10} , R_{11} , is the same or different, and is fluorine, hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

D is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkali metal [sodium or lithium]; halogen [chloride or bromide]; alkyl halide in which the alkyl has 1 to 6 carbon atoms and halide is chlorine or bromine; and BG₃ or AlG₃ in which B is boron (B) or Al is aluminum (Al), and

G is pentafluorophenyl, bis-trifluoromethylphenyl, phenyl or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

17. A compound of the formula

$$R_3$$
 R_5
 R_6
 R_7
 R_{10}
 R_{11}

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wherein each of R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkylene of 2 to 10 carbon atoms which form bridged bicyclic or tricyclic moleties;

 R_5 is hydrogen or GeZ_3 wherein Ge is germanium and Z is hydrogen or all alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

A is C, Si, Ge; and each of R_6 and R_7 is the same or different and is alkyl of 1 to 20 carbon atoms, aryl of 6 to 20 carbon atoms, alkenyl of 2 to 20 carbon atoms or alkynyl of 3 to 20 carbon atoms;

each of R_{θ} , R_{9} , R_{10} , R_{11} , is the same or different, and is fluorine, hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms;

D is hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms, alkali metal [sodium or lithium]; halogen [chloride or bromide]; alkyl halide in which the alkyl has 1 to 6 carbon atoms and halide is chlorine or bromine; and BG₃ or AlG₃ in which B is boron (B) or Al is aluminum (Al), and

G is pentafluorophenyl, bis-trifluoromethylphenyl, phenyl or alkyl of 1 to 6 carbon atoms.

- 18. The compound of Claim 17, wherein D is Br.
- 20 19. The compound of Claim 17, wherein D is Li.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US97/11074

A. CLA	ASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER					
IPC(6) :C07F 17/00, 7/00; B01J 31/00; C08F 4/44, 110/02						
US CL: Please See Extra Sheet. According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC						
		n national classification and the				
	LDS SEARCHED					
Minimum d	focumentation searched (classification system follows	ed by classification symbols)				
U. S . :	502/ 152, 157, 158; 526/ 127, 160, 352, 943; 556/	7, 11, 12, 27, 28, 53				
Documentat	tion searched other than minimum documentation to th	e extent that such documents are included	in the fields searched			
	data base consulted during the international search (nate and CA databases	ame of data base and, where practicable	, search terms used)			
C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
A	DORMOND et al. Synthese D'un Optiquement Actif Applications Er Tetrahedron Letters. 1983, Vol. 3090, especially compound 3 on	1-19				
A	SCHMID et al. n ⁵ -Pentabenzylcycl titanium (IV), (III), and (II). The C_6H_6) $(\eta^5-C_6Bz_6)$ TiCl ₂ (Bz = benzy (CSiMe ₃) ²]. Journal of Organom Vol. 482, pages 231-241, especia	1-19				
X Furth	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C	See patent family annex.				
·	ocial categories of cited documents:	T later document published after the inte	restional filing date or priority			
3pc	remont defining the general state of the set which is not considered	date and not in conflict with the applica principle or theory underlying the inve	tion but cited to understand the			
to b	os of particular relevance	"X" document of particular relovance; the				
	tier document published on or after the international filling date	considered novel or cannot be consider when the document is taken alone				
cito	nament which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is d to establish the publication date of another citation or other	"Y" document of particular relevance; the	claimed invention report to			
	cial reason (as specified)	considered to involve an inventive	step when the document is			
O" doc met	nument referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other and	combined with one or more other such being obvious to a person skilled in th				
P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		"&" document member of the seems petrost femily				
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report				
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Washington	, D.C. 20231	Porfirio Nazario-Gonzalez				
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US97/11074

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
\	BULLS et al. Relative bond dissociation energies for early transition metal alkyl, aryl, alkynyl and hydride compounds. Equilibration of metallated cyclopentadienyl derivatives of peralkylated hafnocene and scandocene with hydrocarbons and dihydrogen. Polyhedron. 1988, Vol. 7, No 16/17, pages 1409-1428, especially page 1413.	1-19
•	HOWELER et al. A Valence Force Field for Zirconocene Dichlorides. Organometallics. June 1994, Vol. 13, No. 6, pages 2380-2390, especially compounds 3 and 9 on page 2384.	1-19
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No. PCT/US97/11074

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502/ 152, 157, 158	; 520/ 127, 100, 552, 7 100			
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